



Office of the City Manager

MEMORANDUM

Date: October 28, 2009
To: Mayor and City Council
Through: Donna Dreska, City Manager
From: Sue Schlerf, Assistant City Manager
Subject: Maureen McKissick, Grant and Fund Development Manager
Updates re the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA)

The Recovery Zone Facility (RZF) bond outreach that Council directed on September 23, 2009 is well underway. City staff, working with staff at Washoe County, developed an RZF fact sheet, checklist, and press release that were posted on October 16, 2009 on the City's website and the websites of:

1. The Reno-Sparks Chamber of Commerce
2. The Association of General Contractors
3. The Reno-Sparks Realtors Association
4. The Builders Association of Northern Nevada
5. Economic Development Authority of Western Nevada (EDAWN)
6. The Nevada Commission on Economic Development (NCED)

Several of the above organizations went the extra mile in disseminating the information. EDAWN contacted its entire membership, and NCED outreached to some of the private industries that are considering relocating to our area. The outreach is producing responses. Staff will provide regular updates to the Council on the status of the RZF inquiries. The Washoe County Board of Commissioners will be considering a similar action re RZF public outreach at the November 10 meeting.

All the ARRA formula-funded projects that Council approved in March and April 2009 are now active.

- The Linden-Grove sidewalk project started on October 16 and is expected to be completed before Thanksgiving. 4,000 linear feet of sidewalk in the Linden-Grove neighborhood are

being constructed or renovated with CDBG-R funding.

- The Homeless Prevention and Re-Housing Program is being implemented through two local non-profits: Catholic Community Services and ReStart. Using the Resource Center at the Community Assistance Center, clients who are at-risk of losing their housing will be connected to short-, medium- and long-term supports and services to remain housed.
- The three community service positions at the Community Assistance Center which are funded through CDBG-R have been filled by Volunteers of America.
- The energy-efficiency projects are underway. The installation of PV panels on the roof of the Parking Gallery was recently completed and the Reno Arch will be “re-lit” with LED lights on November 17, 2009 at 5:00 pm.
- The Police Department is implementing \$3,351,663 in six ARRA grants. Chief Poehlman’s memo of October 16 covers the status of each project. By far, the largest project is the hiring of 10 new police officers under the COPS grant.

Three ARRA applications are pending:

1. The Neighborhood Stabilization Program: expected date of notification remains December 2009.
2. TIGER: expected date of notification is late February 2010. The U.S. Department of Transportation received 1,381 applications totaling \$56.7 billion for the \$1.5 billion that is available nationally.
3. Fire Station Construction: the City’s application is still in contention for the \$22 million that remains to be allocated. The fire review panel prioritized stations that provide new capacity rather than expand capacity at existing stations. Using this criterion, Reno’s application will take a back seat to applications for new stations.